

What is claimed is;

1. An information providing apparatus for vehicle comprising;

an information storage device in which a plurality of  
5 different types of information to be provided to a user aboard  
a vehicle having an on-vehicle apparatus installed therein  
are stored;

10 an interactive voice response device having a speech  
recognition function that provides audio guidance edited for  
each user and engages in a dialogue with the user through  
automatic voice response via a telephone line;

15 an information acquisition device that obtains  
information determined based upon the dialogue between the  
user and the interactive voice response device from the  
information storage device; and

an information transmission device that transmits the  
information obtained by the information acquisition device  
to the on-vehicle apparatus.

20 2. An information providing apparatus for vehicle  
according to claim 1, wherein:

the interactive voice response device provides audio  
guidance edited based upon information pre-registered by the  
user.

3. An information providing apparatus for vehicle according to claim 2, wherein:

when providing audio guidance to prompt the user to specify a desired type of information, the interactive voice response device first provides audio guidance to prompt the user to specify whether or not the user wishes to receive a pre-registered type of information.

4. An information providing apparatus for vehicle according to claim 1, wherein:

the interactive voice response device tabulates information provided to a given user in the past and provides audio guidance customized for the user based upon tabulation results.

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5. An information providing apparatus for vehicle according to claim 4, wherein:

the interactive voice response device provides audio guidance customized for each user by using a type of information most frequently provided to the user among different types of information previously provided to the user.

6. An information providing apparatus for vehicle according to claim 2, further comprising;

25 a dialog contents storage device in which contents of

a dialogue conducted between the user and the interactive voice response device when providing information to the user are stored, wherein:

the dialog contents stored in the dialogue contents  
5 storage device are indicated to the user.

7. An information providing apparatus for vehicle comprising;

an information storage means for storing a plurality  
10 of different types of information to be provided to a user aboard a vehicle having an on-vehicle apparatus installed therein;

an interactive voice response means, equipped with a speech recognition function, for providing audio guidance  
15 edited for each user and engaging in a dialogue with the user through automatic voice response via a telephone line;

an information acquisition means for obtaining information determined based upon the dialogue between the user and the interactive voice response means from the  
20 information storage means; and

an information transmission means for transmitting the information obtained by the information acquisition means to the on-vehicle apparatus.

25 8. An information providing method for vehicle comprising:

verifying a user aboard a vehicle having an on-vehicle apparatus installed therein who has called to an information center;

5 providing an audio guidance which is edited for each user by an interactive voice response apparatus installed at the information center;

determining information desired by the user based upon a dialogue between the user and the interactive voice response apparatus; and

10 transmitting the determined information to the on-vehicle apparatus.